THE VIRGIN MARY IN THE KINGDOM

Day 28 (P284)

The expectation of Christ's Resurrection: his victory over death and the release of the souls from Limbo

"My mother, I love you; love me too. Increase in my soul the Will of God, and grant me your blessing also, so that I may do all my actions under your maternal gaze."

The soul to its Holy Queen Mother:

My sorrowful mother, I who am your little child see you by yourself, without your beloved and good Jesus.

I long to cling to you and keep you company in your most bitter desolation; without Jesus, you experience nothing but sorrow.

Not having anything but the memory of his harrowing pains, of the sweet sound of his voice which still resounds in your ears, of dear Jesus' charming gaze in his moments of sweetness, sadness and tear-filled weeping that always enraptured your maternal heart, are like sharp swords that pierce your maternal heart through and through.

Desolate mother, I, your dear child, offer you my compassion to assuage each one of your sorrows.

What is more, I would like to be for you another Jesus to offer you all the love, comfort, consolation and compassion that Jesus himself would have given you in your state of bitter desolation.

Sweet Jesus gave me to you as your child; now allow me to act in his stead within your maternal heart, so that I may be to you another Jesus in all things, my mother. I will dry your tears and offer you my perpetual company.

Lesson of the desolate Mother and Queen:

Dearest child, thank you for your company.

If you wish your company to be sweet and dear to me, and if you wish to be the bearer of comfort to my pierced heart, allow me to find in you the operating and dominating Divine Will, whereby you refuse to concede so much as one breath of life to your own will. Then will I exchange you with my Son Jesus, because only by means of his Divine Will reigning in you will I experience Jesus alive and reigning in your heart.

And how happy I shall be to find in you the first fruits of Jesus' sorrows and death; in finding my beloved Jesus in my child, my pains will convert into joys, and my sorrows into conquests.

Now, child of my sorrows, listen closely to what your tender mother wishes to tell you. As my dear Son breathed his last, He descended into the prison of limbo as the triumphant bearer of glory and joy to all the patriarchs, prophets, the first father Adam, dear Saint Joseph, my holy parents and all those who had been saved by virtue of the foreseen merits of the future Redeemer.

Because I was inseparable from my Son, not even death could take him away from me. So, in my ardent sorrows I followed him into limbo, and witnessed the rejoicing and thanksgiving which that great host of souls offered my Son who had suffered so much for them

Indeed, his first step was directed toward them to beatify them and bring them with him to heavenly glory.

So with Jesus' death there began the conquests and glories for him and for all those who loved him.

And this, dear child, symbolizes the manner in which all conquests, glories and joys begin in the divine order for the soul who makes its will die in union with the Divine Will, even in the face of life's greatest sorrows.

So, even though the eyes of my soul followed my Son and I never lost sight of him, during those three days in which He was in the sepulchre, I so yearned to see him risen that in my ardent love I kept repeating:

"Rise, my Glory!

Arise, my life!"

My desires were so ardent and my yearning so enflamed that my human nature was completely consumed in love.

Now, in this yearning, I saw my dear Son, accompanied by this great host of souls, leaving limbo and returning to the sepulchre.

It was the dawn of the third day, and just as all nature wept over him, so now it rejoiced in him, so much so that the sun anticipated its course to witness the event of my Son's Resurrection.

But what a surprise it was to see that before resurrecting, He showed this great host of souls from limbo his most sacred humanity covered with Blood, wounded and disfigured for love of them, exactly as it was when He was on the Cross.

All were deeply moved and gratefully contemplated the excess of his love in the great miracle of the Redemption.

Oh, my child, how I long for you also to witness the event of the Resurrection of my Son! He was cloaked with majesty, and from his divinity united to his humanity, his soul unleashed enchanting seas of light and beauty that filled heaven and earth.

Then, triumphantly making use of his power, He commanded his deceased humanity to receive his soul again and rise triumphant and glorious to immortal life.

What a solemn event this was!

My dear Jesus triumphed over death saying,

"Death, you will no longer be death, but life!"

With this triumphant act, Jesus *sealed* the reality that He was in his one Divine Person both Man and God, and with his Resurrection He *confirmed* his doctrine, his miracles, the life of the Sacraments and the entire life of the Church.

Moreover, He obtained the *triumph* over the human will of all souls that are weakened and almost dead to any true good, so that the life of the Divine Will that was to bring the fullness of holiness and all blessings to souls might triumph over them.

And in so doing, and by virtue of his Resurrection, He also *sowed the seed* of resurrection to eternal glory in all human bodies.

My child, the Resurrection of my Son encloses everything and it is the most solemn act of Jesus for love of souls.

Now, my child, listen closely to what your tender mother wishes to tell you.

I wish to speak to you as a mother who loves her child very much;

I wish to tell you what it means to do the Divine Will and to live in it.

The example is given to you by my Son and by me.

Our life was strewn with pains, poverty and humiliations, to the point of me seeing my beloved Son die amidst sorrows, but in all this the Divine Will excelled.

The Divine Will was the life of our sorrows through which it made us feel triumphant and victorious, ¹²² so much so that it changed death itself into life.

¹²²Mary reveals to Luisa on Day 29 that after Jesus' Resurrection, such sorrows were converted into seas of grace, light and love. ¹²²

Indeed, in experiencing the great blessings of the Divine Will, we had such interior resolve that we voluntarily exposed ourselves to sufferings.

For having the Divine Will in us, over which no one had any power, we knew that no one had power over us.

Thus suffering was in our power which we invoked as our nourishment and conqueror in the work of Redemption in order to purchase for the entire world all the blessings God had prepared for it.

Now, dear child, if you allow the Divine Will to become the centre of your life and especially of your sorrows, you can be certain that sweet Jesus will use you and your sorrows to administer assistance, light and grace to the entire universe.

Therefore, have courage, for the Divine Will can do great things wherever it reigns. In all circumstances, reflect yourself in me and in your sweet Jesus, and forge ahead.

The soul:

Holy Mother, if you help me and keep me sheltered beneath your mantle as my heavenly sentry, I am certain that all my pains will convert into the Will of God, and I will follow you, step by step, along the unending ways of the Supreme Fiat.

For I know that your enrapturing motherly love and power¹²³ will conquer my will, keep it in your power and exchange it for me with the Divine Will.

And so, my mother, I entrust myself to you and abandon myself into your arms.

¹²³Throughout her writings Luisa relates that the "power" Mary possesses discovers its provenance in the Trinity.

Mary reveals to Luisa:

"... The heavenly Father poured forth upon me seas of power; the Son, seas of wisdom; the Holy Spirit, seas of love.

So I was conceived in the never-ending light of the Divine Will" (cf. L. Piccarreta, BVM, day 2).

Jesus reveals to Luisa:

"It was the power of Our Triune Will operating in her Mary that, while dominating her, made her the possessor of God himself..." (L. Piccarreta, volume 15, December 8, 1922). 123

Aspiration:

Today, to honour me, recite seven times: "Not my will, but yours be done," while offering me my sorrows in exchange for the grace to do always the Divine Will.

Exclamation:

Dear mother, for the sake of the Resurrection of your Son, make me rise again in the Will of God.